

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

*Please amend the claims as follows:*

1. (Currently Amended) A method of recording and reproducing information in which a recording area of a recording medium is physically divided into plurality of blocks and each block is partitioned into plurality of pages, said method comprising steps of:

~~recording and erasing information in one or more pages in blocks of the plurality of blocks;~~

allocating a specific area having a frequently changing information to at least one page in one block of the plurality of blocks, wherein pages in said ~~one~~ block each contain an area for recording area management information including information indicating an unused area, an allocated area, a disabled area, or an ordinary recording area; and

disabling remaining pages in said one block when said allocating step allocates the frequently changing information to said at least one page in said one block, wherein said remaining pages include at least one page,

wherein the frequently changing information is managing data recorded in the recording medium or root directory information.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 1, wherein the at least one page is provided with an area for recording area management information including information indicating that the specific area has been allocated, information indicating the disablement of the page although unused, information indicating an unused area, and information indicating an ordinary recording area.

4-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 1 ~~claim 3~~,

wherein the specific area is a data management area in which the managing data is stored as the frequently changing information,

said method further comprising steps of:

recording of information into the recording medium;

(6a) allocating an unused block to a logical space and recording information writing data into said one an unused block of the recording medium when a writing data operation is performed to the recording medium;

(6b) reading and modifying contents of the data management area in said one block in the recording medium, the contents being the managing data;

(6c) modifying the contents of the data management area in relation to the written data;

(6d) recording writing the modified contents of the data management area into pages of another unused block in the recording medium; and

(6e) disabling other pages in said another unused block of the step (6d), wherein the modified contents were not written in said other pages; and

(6f) erasing the contents of the data management area in said one block before modified, and turning said one block where the data management area before modified has resided, into thean unused block.

7-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 1~~claim 3~~,

wherein the specific area is a data management area in which the managing data is stored as the frequently changing information,

said method further comprising steps of:

erasing of information in the recording medium;

(9a) reading and modifying contents of the data management area in said one block in the recording medium, the contents being the managing data, when a data erasing operation is performed to the recording medium;

(9b) modifying the contents of the data management area in relation to the data to be erased;

(9c) ~~recording~~ writing the modified contents of the data management area into pages of an unused block in the recording medium;

(9d) disabling other pages in said unused block of the step (9c), wherein the modified contents were not written in said other pages;

(9e) erasing the contents of the data management area in said one block before modified, and turning said one block where the data management area before modified has resided, into ~~the~~ an unused block; and

(9f) erasing the ~~information~~ data to be ~~deleted~~ erased, and turning said ~~one~~ a block where the ~~information~~ data to be erased has resided, into ~~the~~ an unused block.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 1, wherein said one block contains the page corresponding to a FAT area, information a high-speed recording area (0x55) is recorded into the area management information in the page corresponding to the FAT area.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 6, further comprising recording a logical address in a logical address part in each page.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 1, wherein said allocating the specific area distinguishes said one block where the specific area is allocated ~~having a frequently changing information from blocks where an ordinary data area are allocated~~, so as to reduce amount of reading/writing data modification when modifying the contents of the specific area.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 1, wherein

said allocating step records an area management information with information indicating an allocated area, for said at least one page, and

said disabling step records an area management information with information indicating a disabled area, for each of said remaining pages.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 1, wherein each page in ~~said one~~ the blocks contains an area for recording area management information including information indicating

an unused area which indicates the area is available for writing data

an allocated area which indicates an area where a frequently changing information is recorded,

a disabled area which indicates an area made to be in a disabled state in order to allocate only frequently changing information to other pages in said one block, or a disabled area which indicates an area in a disabled state due to damage, or

an ordinary recording area which indicates an area where ordinary data other than a frequently changing information is recorded.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 3~~claim 4~~, wherein said area management information is represented by a hexadecimal code.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 1, wherein pages in said one block other than pages where the frequently changing information is allocated are neither used for data storage nor allocated to the logical space.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 1, further comprising assigning a logical address to each page in said one block.